

RABIES PROTOCOL

MANAGEMENT OF DOGS AND CATS EXPOSED TO WILDLIFE

DEFINITIONS:

1. Isolation

- a) Restricting a domestic animal from any direct human or other animal contact.
- b) Animal must be confined to a facility such as a dog pound, veterinary hospital, commercial kennel or quarantine facility for livestock approved by the Animal Inspector of the appropriate municipality; or isolation at home under conditions approved by the Animal Inspector of the municipality and the Department.

2. Strict Confinement

- a) Animal may be kept at home in an escape-proof, solid walled building with a roof, approved by the Animal Inspector of the municipality.
- b) Animal may be leash walked by an adult or under the direct supervision of an adult.
- c) Owner informed of potential rabies risk and given instructions in writing.
- d) Owner required to notify veterinarian and Animal Inspector of unusual behavior or change in health status of pet.

- 3. Exposed by Proximity** - Seen near or in the vicinity of a confirmed rabid animal, but which had no physical contact with nor received any wounds from the confirmed rabid animal.

- 4. Quarantine** - Confinement of a domestic animal from humans and other animals for the purpose of observing the animal for signs of rabies and minimizing chances of the animal spreading rabies to humans or other animals. This includes isolation and strict confinement.

- 5. Signs of Rabies** - Unexplained aggression, impaired locomotion, varying degrees of paralysis, extreme depression or viciousness. The signs of rabies vary in animals. Some will display attack-like behavior while others appear sick or dazed.

For further information, contact the Animal Inspector in your city / town.